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Ken Senstad
Headquarters, Washington, D.C.
(Phone: 202/755-3704)

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STUDY TO DETERMINE PRIVATE SECTOR ROLE IN REMOTE SENSING

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) of the Department of Commerce are jointly undertaking a study to determine the extent to which private industry can participate more directly in the nation's civil remote sensing program.

The study is one of several actions directed by President Carter in his civil space policy statement.

Remote sensing involves obtaining information about the Earth from space using various advanced sensing instruments.

The private sector is being asked to submit views regarding increased participation in remote sensing in the near term.

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Suggestions are being considered on any and all aspects of remote sensing, including:

- Capital investment
- System ownership
- Systems concepts
- Commercial product development
- Market assessments
- Incentives needed to participate
- The roles of government and the private sector

Suggestions and opinions received will be considered in the development of plans and policies for private investment and participation in every aspect of remote sensing.

The study is being directed by Arnold Frutkin, NASA Associate Administrator for External Relations and Wilbur H. Eskite, Jr., NOAA Special Assistant for Studies and Analysis.

Submissions from the private sector should be sent to the Director of Government/Industry Affairs, NASA, Washington, D.C. 20546. (Telephone: 202/755-3940.)

The study is expected to be completed this summer.

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(This information also being released by NOAA.)